

C1
part 7

capsule body is coated with an insoluble polymer and the cap is enteric or colonic coated. In another embodiment, two equal HPMC capsule halves are filled with a caplet. In another embodiment of the present invention, a coating is applied separately to equal empty HPMC capsule halves. a stomach resistant coating may be applied to HPMC capsules having a sealing on the gap between capsule body and cap. In another embodiment, one half of the capsule is enteric coated and the other half is colonic coated. Alternatively, one half of the capsule may be coated with an insoluble polymer and the other half with an enteric or colonic coating. In another embodiment, a stomach resistant coating is applied to HPMC capsules having a first coating of a water soluble polyvinyl alcohol. The HPMC capsule may be coated with a film which is non-dissolving at $\text{pH} < 3$ to 4 and dissolving at $\text{pH} > 5.5$. The HPMC content of the capsule shell may be in the range of from 10 to 90% by weight.

IN THE CLAIMS

C2
part 7

1. (Twice Amended) A drug delivery composition comprising a HPMC capsule capable of containing the drug, wherein the HPMC capsule is provided with a single aqueous coating such that the drug is not released from the capsule in the stomach.

19. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 2 wherein the drug is one which is effective in the small intestine.

C3

20. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein the drug is one which acts locally in the colon.

21. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein the coating is applied separately to empty HPMC capsule body and cap.

22. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 21 wherein the HPMC capsule body is coated with an insoluble polymer and the cap is enteric or colonic coated.

C3 23. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 22 wherein the water insoluble polymer is ethyl cellulose.

24. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein two equal HPMC capsule halves are filled with a caplet.

25. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 24 wherein the coating is applied separately to equal empty HPMC capsule halves.

C4 28. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein the stomach resistant coating is applied to HPMC capsules having a first coating of a water soluble polyvinyl alcohol.

29. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein the HPMC capsule is coated with a film which is non-dissolving at pH < 3 to 4 and dissolving at pH > 5.5.

30. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein the HPMC content of the capsule shell is in the range of from 10 to 90% by weight.

31. (Amended) A drug delivery composition according to claim 1 wherein stomach resistant coating is applied to HPMC capsules having a sealing on the gap between capsule body and cap.

C5 32. A drug delivery composition according to claim 24 wherein one half is enteric coated and the other half is colonic coated.